### The Town

#### **Town Meeting**

Attendance was strong at the May 3rd annual town meeting in spite of, or perhaps because of, the fact that some issues of concern were represented on the Warrant only tangentially as budget items. Business was conducted efficiently, punctuated by some in-depth discussions. The expressed dissatisfaction of the Select Board with the performance of the Assistant Assessor culminated in a symbolic salary reduction, a move which will have to be reconsidered at a future town meet-

ing. The police budget provided an opening for citizens to voice ambivalence or support for an increased police presence in town. Consensus on the need and desire for a larger police force was not achieved. By a vote of 84-23, voters passed over the question of adopting a quarterly property tax billing, as no one could be certain of whether savings on reduced borrowing would be cancelled out by increased costs. Voters adopted a Town Bylaw prohibiting personal watercraft on Lake Garfield and supported retaining the town beach in its present location. The Scenic Mountain Act was adopted by such an overwhelming majority that even its most optimistic supporters were surprised. At the end of the meeting outgoing Select Board member Muriel Lazzarini was presented with a basket of flowers and a warm round of applause for her six years of service to the town. Business concluded, voters



Voters expressing their preference at May 3rd town meeting.

emerged into the sunshine and May flies in the early afternoon.

#### **Select Board Reorganizes**

At the first meeting of the month of May, new Select Board member Michele Miller was administered the oath of office by Town Clerk Barbara Swann. Miller was elected to the Select Board for a three-year term at the annual town meeting, taking the place vacated by Muriel Lazzarini who served the town so well for six years. Peter Brown assumed the Chair. Work on the town's business began immediately.

#### **Policies**

The Select Board is working on a statement of computer policy for all town officials. The goal is to clarify once and for all that the town owns all computers and data and that all data must be backed up on the server. Another important policy

under review is the fees for private alarm systems. While no final decisions have been reached it is clear that repeated false alarms will incur steeper fees, which reflect the drain on the police budget. Also under discussion, are transfer station operations and fees. The Board, after much debate is opting for a lower sticker fee combined with pay per throw. A schedule of fees and stickers for larger items will also be put in place.

#### Vacancies On Town Boards

The Select Board is conferring with the Park Commission to fill the two vacant spots on the commission. The town meeting overwhelmingly approved increasing the seats on the Park Commission to five rather than the previous three, giving the commission much needed assistance so that the members won't "burn out," especially during the very busy spring and summer months. The two new

positions will be appointed for a term of one year, until the next town election in May 2004, when the town will vote to fill the seats on the Park Commission.

### **Highway Department News**

Director of Operations Maynard Forbes reviewed the Highway Department schedule with the Select Board, as he does on a weekly basis. Currently the members of the Highway Department are grading the roads and clearing the catch basins as well as trimming back the shredded stumps left from last fall. More thorough grading will be done later in the season. Repair of the New Marlborough-North Road-Bridge is scheduled for August. There was at one time a plan to use beams salvaged from the Gould Road Bridge for the job, but removing the lead paint would only add an extra dimension to the job, and the bigger expense will be for machinery, not materials. The berm on Route 23 just west of the village was the site for a meeting with Carrie Petrick of Project Native, who will develop a proposal for how to reclaim it with native plant materials over a period of time.

### **Board of Assessors Update**

Gerry Shapiro of the Board of Assessors appeared before the Select Board to discuss the uncertain future of the Assessors and the Assistant Assessor in light of the vote to halve the Assistant Assessor salary at the annual town meeting. The Select Board, though somewhat divided in their attitude toward the Assessors, decided to make a greater effort to work out differences. The Assessors are continuing to process abatements. They recently forwarded to the Select Board a detailed job description of the Assistant Assessor position. Recently the Assessors hours and presence has increased, which was one of the sticking points in past discussions. Providing additional training for the Assistant Assessor's Clerk is also an option for

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providing more service for the town and reducing the workload on Administrative Assistant Bonnie Jurgenson.

#### Nighttime Fun In Monterey

A reminder to all citizens of Monterey: while regular Select Board meetings are on Monday mornings from 8:30—noon, the board is available to meet by appointment on Monday evening. Please call Bonnie Jurgenson at 528-1443 to schedule an evening appointment, with four days' notice, at least, please.

#### **Memorial Day**

Once again, Linda Thorpe is to be given much thanks and praise for organizing the ceremonies and events on Memorial Day. While the parade and the picnic afterward were cancelled due to the weather, the ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Park was well attended and very moving (see p. 4). Thank you Linda.

#### **Police Business**

Chief Gareth Backhaus interviewed Thomas Kurtka, a recent graduate of the police academy, for the full-time position funded by the COPS grant and recommended him to the Select Board. A year ago this month Chief Backhaus began looking into the possibility of applying for federal grant monies to hire an additional officer. Acquiring the grant

may turn out to have been the easy part, as finding qualified personnel willing to relocate and work for the salary offered may not be as straightforward. The lack of police presence in town center on weekends was discussed after another potentially fatal accident involving a speeding motorcycle was narrowly avoided. Chief Backhaus's hours are mostly spent during the week and during late night false alarms. The additional police officer may provide the weekend presence that many residents would like.

#### **Architect and Town Hall**

David Bixby, who has long been the architect for the Town Hall renovations and additions met with the Select Board to discuss the relocation of the Police Department from basement offices, as originally planned, to a space on the ground floor. Bixby and the Select Board, with input from Chief Backhaus, have come up with a plan to move the police offices, make some changes, all without changing the integrity of the building. It was decided that the office space designated as the Select Board's room in the existing plan be allocated to the Police Department. The Select Board will be given the large front room of the original Grange building; the space will be enclosed and will also function as the building's largest meeting room.



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#### **Road Salt Woes**

Leona Chamberlin of River Road met with the Select Board to discuss the contamination of her dug well by road salt. Chamberlin presented the board with a laboratory report documenting the level of pollution, which renders the water non-potable. Select Board member Peter Brown stated that the town has no liability in this regard but is willing to explore solutions for the problem of wells susceptible to water runoff from an adjacent roadway. The board will also explore how such problems are ad-

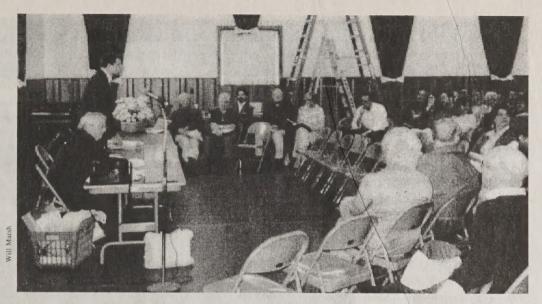
dressed by neighboring towns. The board asked Chamberlin to investigate the possibility of filtration and obtain estimates for a whole-house water filter as an alternative to drilling a new well. There is also a good chance that a grant is available for the drilling of a new well.

#### **Inspector Please**

The Board met with Bob Krupski, the town's newly appointed Plumbing Inspector to discuss the appointment to the office of Gas Inspector, including reimbursement and inspection fees.

Chandler Crawford and Michele Miller





Moderator Mark Makuc addressing the town meeting

## **Town Election Results**

Two hundred and seventy-five voters cast ballots in the May 3rd town election, though not all voted in every race. Five of the town officer positions were contested.

In the race for the open seat on the **Select Board**, Michele Miller (Ind.), with 162 votes, defeated Michael Storch (D, R), who garnered 107 votes.

In the **Finance Committee** race, incumbent Dan Moriarty (D) defeated Michael Feltser, 161 to 87.

Rita Backhaus (D) was elected to the **Board of Assessors**, defeating Ricardo Boehm (R) by 145 to 114.

Fred Chapman (D) won a seat on the **Board of Appeals**, getting 154 votes to the 117 of Louise Burns (R).

In the race for the contested seat on the **Planning Board**, incumbent Wayne Burkhart (R) retained his seat with 143 votes to Democrat Joyce Scheffey's 127.

The vote counts for the uncontested races were as follows:

Board of Health (2 seats open): Stephen Enoch (3 years), 231; John Makuc (2 years), 244.

**Cemetery Commission:** Linda Thorpe, 261

**Library Trustees** (2 seats open): Kathy Bracken, 203; Carol Edelman, 198.

Moderator: Mark Makuc 257.

Park Commission (2 seats open): David Crane, 234; Leroy Thorpe, 245.

**Planning Board** (3 years, uncontested seat): Claudia Weldon, 222.

Town Clerk: Barbara Swann, 231. Tree Warden: Roger Tryon, 230.



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## Memorial Day 2003

For the first time in many years the Monterey Memorial Day Parade was cancelled due to inclement weather. However, despite the heavy downpour, a large group of hardy souls gathered at the Veterans Memorial Park for a Veterans Memorial Service. Some of the highlights follow.

#### Invocation

Last week I had a conversation with a young friend I hadn't seen since last summer. In answer to a question about her long-term boyfriend who currently serves in Kuwait, she said, "He's not my boy-

friend any more. He sent me a letter once he got over there. Seven sentences long. He's going to have a lot of explaining to do once he gets home." She acknowledged, too, that the letter which sacrificed their future may simply have been meant to release her from the anxiety of having the man she loves at what was once called "the front." That the letter may have been meant, in its own strange way, as a gift of peace in a time of war.

And last night I learned that another friend's son, this weekend, lost his long-term battle with inner enemies, and sought the apparent peace of suicide. An act easy to judge, horrific and counterproductive.

For too long the human hope for peace has been politicized, been used to separate us according to our behaviors and ideas about how to bring peace to pass. Today, let's take yet another lesson from you who are war veterans, who continue to teach us by your dedication to our country.

You stand side by side, no matter which branch of the military was the crucible for your service. You share a bond of experience, no matter whether you served in the global conflict of World War II, or the more localized hells of Korea, Vietnam, Kuwait, Afghanistan,



Steve Pullen speaking at the Veterans Memorial Service

Iraq. You stand shoulder to shoulder, whether your service took you across the Atlantic or the Pacific. You know, better than any of the rest of us, the ache of fallen brothers and sisters in arms, whether fallen to sniper fire, torpedo, or the, perhaps chemical, perhaps characterological, perhaps neurological, posttraumatic stress of battles replayed without end in the mind.

May we all, as members of the human family, learn from you. Let us stand together as you do today, to honor all those fallen before us in battle, during a declared war, or in a more localized conflict. And, to strengthen ourselves, let us now invoke our awareness of the authority of the Creator of the Universe, by

whatever name each of us embraces that One, with these words:

Oh You,

in the beginning, Creator of heaven and earth,

now also the sustainer of our bodies, hearts and souls,

fill us with the peace that passes understanding

so that we may have the grace to live our lives with courage in times of conflict,

and to support our loved ones as best we can,

acting as agents of faith, hope, and love. Amen.

- Mary Kate Jordan

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## A Homily for Memorial Day

It is an honor to speak today as a citizen of the Town of Monterey, as a son and grandson of veterans of World War I and World War II, as a Vietnam War veteran, and especially as a representative of these veterans standing with me. I am especially grateful to be speaking publicly in a country where I have the right to say what I believe without censure, bearing in mind, nonetheless, my responsibility to honor your feelings of grief today as well as my own.

Can you hear me back there? You men turn up your hearing aids! Yes, please chuckle, laugh, or smile during my homily if you feel like it. Humor helps us to bear pain, horror, and fear, and I want to talk about how we cope with those feelings this morning.

Last week my mother said, "You haven't talked about Vietnam for 35 years and here you have written in the Monterey News, read a story for the community supper, and will speak at the Memorial Day service. Well as I read about our young men and women fighting a war in Iraq, surrounded by civilians, not knowing who to shoot until it is too late, I felt someone who knows how hard that is must speak for them. I have been profoundly influenced by war and I have thought about it almost every day, especially about those friends that were killed. I could speak for days, but I won't.

It is an honor to speak on this painful and sad occasion when we honor those killed in war in our name. Since the birth of our country the number is in the millions. In Vietnam 55,000 were killed. During the darkest time, 100 died each day. I heard yesterday that 500 American men and women have died in wars over the past ten years. The most frequent question I'm asked when someone finds out I was a Marine in Vietnam is "How could you stand it without losing your sanity?" The first thought I always have is "What makes you so sure I'm sane?" One answer is that we made jokes almost constantly, especially during combat. The other answer is that we bury it deep inside and don't talk about it to anyone.

In Vietnam, when we returned to our base camp from the field, we saw 16

millimeter movies of TV show reruns (without the advertisements!). This was in 1967, no videos folks. The two shows we saw almost exclusively were "Gunsmoke" and "Combat." We loved the irony. Once, while cowering behind a tree during a firefight, in deep jungle, our Gunnery Sergeant turned to us radio operators and said, "Gee, this is just like 'Combat,' ain't it?" Humor didn't make the horror go away, but it was a tool for survival that worked. One of our favorite sayings was "It's not the bullet with your name on it that you have to worry about, it's the one that says 'To whom it may concern!""

By far the best book I ever read describing my experience in Vietnam was *The Things They Carried*, by Tim O'Brien, who was also once a Marine in Vietnam. He writes this most profound truth:

A true war story is never moral. It does not instruct, nor encourage virtue, nor suggest models of human behavior, nor restrain men from doing the things that men have always done. If a story seems moral, do not believe it. If at the end of a war story you feel uplifted, or if you feel that some small bit of rectitude has been salvaged from the larger waste, then you have been made the victim of a very old and terrible lie. There is no rectitude whatsoever. There is no virtue. As a first rule of thumb, therefore, you can tell a true war story by its absolute and uncompromising allegiance to obscenity and evil.

When I read those words a few years ago light bulbs went on. Don't you wonder why your fathers, brothers, uncles, friends don't try to tell you about war? Countless times I have heard, "My father never talked to us about it." I guess my own kids say that about me. I've said it about my father. A veteran doesn't want to describe the obscenity in order to protect you. Oh, you may hear some funny stories, there are lots

of those to share, but not the brutal truth. They don't want to embarrass you with the incredibly sad truth.

Over the past three decades I have struggled to find something of value from this experience. First I had to stop blaming myself for the war. This was classic victim therapy. Eighteen- and nineteen-year-olds don't send our country off to war. Many veterans simply have never separated themselves from the war. Politicians make wars, and I am trying not to argue for or against or to justify any war; that is for the political arena.

Then I remembered my strong desire to serve my community and country when I was a young man. Like millions of young people I learned the value of service to my community from an early age through volunteering at many things. I was ready to serve at an even higher level of commitment. We still have young men and women willing to serve. We talk about people "in the service" or we say our service men and women. That willingness to subordinate oneself for the benefit of one's community is the most precious trait that allows a society to exist. Yes, this includes the willingness to die if called to. As I said, millions have and that is why we are here today.

I don't believe this incredible desire to serve comes from flag waving or lofty patriotic expressions. It comes directly from the love of community and the desire to give back to it. That is why we honor that service today, especially the sacrifice of their life by so many who dearly loved their friends, neighbors, and community. We all must serve each other and our community in honor and memory of that sacrifice.

- Steve Pullen

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### Letter from Kuwait

Fran and Dean Amidon's grand-daughter, Angela Amidon, a Captain in the Army Reserve based at Fort Bragg, served in Afghanistan and is presently serving in Kuwait as an Intelligence Officer. Dean asked her to write a letter to be read at our Monterey Veterans Memorial Service, giving her thoughts that might represent our armed forces serving overseas during this precarious time in our country's history. Captain Amidon, sent the following letter, which Fran read at the Veterans Memorial Service.

May 9, 2003 Dear Gram and Grandpa,

I am over here in Kuwait. What a remarkable difference from life in Afghanistan. Locals here are used to the American presence. When I stepped off the plane I remember being hit hard by the heat, even at five in the morning. There are so many people here, including those that are from other countries. Although, I was not here at the beginning of the war, I have heard stories from the ones who were. They say alarms were constantly going off and they had to put on and take off their chemical suits and masks continually. There were people running everywhere trying to find a bunker to crawl into. They saw American Patriot missiles shooting through the sky to intercept incoming rounds from the enemy. Rounds that could have impacted and brought death to many. I overheard some female soldiers talking about how they didn't think they were going to make it home.

Now things are different. Besides Camp Doha, Kuwait, there are many other camps set up in the surrounding areas. Camp Doha is considered nice and a person is lucky to be staying here. The same cannot be said about the other camps. I feel like I cannot do justice to those that directly fought in the war. They have suffered greatly, some completely. The soldiers that were fighting on the front lines have to come back through Camp Doha in order to head back to the States. They are so young, yet you can see the seriousness and experience in their eyes. War will make an individual grow up fast. There are soldiers out here that have

only been in the Army for a couple years but have more experience than someone who has been in for more than 30 years.

The American flag is everywhere. When I am going through my daily routine, I don't really notice anything out of the ordinary. But, someone who is not familiar with the military would see people living in horrible conditions. I don't think Americans realize how great they have it. Only those that have served and fought for the freedoms that Americans enjoy can truly understand how great it is to be an American. That doesn't necessarily mean military service. There are many civilians working side-by-side with us that are sacrificing a lot in order to protect our freedoms. I think about the protestors and the narrow-minded individuals, who go about their daily lives with blinders on who have never had to see things from this angle, refuse to. I think to myself, "Am I fighting for these people?" But, it is those that support us and praise us that help me to hold my pride. I remember in Afghanistan, I saw little four year-old children working under the hot sun in the fields, begging for water when Americans would drive by. I have seen children in the United States get upset when they don't have the latest Play Station game. I consider myself fortunate to have seen both worlds. I just wish others could. There is a difference between supporting the troops and supporting the war. One may not agree with the war but can support the troops who are placed on the front lines. Some people don't understand that a good soldier prays for peace.

This isn't over, although some think it is. There is still a threat and one must always be on guard. I thank God for everyday I have on this earth and hope to one day come home again.

## **Memorial Service Benediction**

We are blessed in our freedom to be gathered here. So we are burdened with the responsibility of being free, Russian theologian Nicholai Berdyaev tells us. "God has laid upon man the duty of being free, of safeguarding freedom of spirit. no matter how difficult that may be or how much sacrifice and suffering it may require." Thomas Jefferson warns us, "The condition upon which God has given liberty to man is eternal vigilance." The Constitution of our country guarantees us this right and responsibility. Education for knowledge and goodness helps us to rise to this inheritance. And the courage of generations of soldiers who have fought and died for freedom's sake calls us together here today. With such brave man and women in mind, let us turn our hearts to God who loves the whole world, who in creating it proclaims it good, that we with our brothers and sisters around the world might be grateful to know in faith that God blesses us and keeps us, God makes his face to shine upon us and be gracious unto us. God lifts up God's countenance upon us to offer us sustained and sustaining peace. Amen.

- Elizabeth R. Goodman

## Thanks from the Veterans

The veterans who were at the Veterans Memorial Service would like to thank the townspeople for their support. It was very heartening to see all the people who arrived at 11:00 a.m., umbrellas in hand, to stand in a steady downpour and listen to the words, volleys, and music that symbolize the day.

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# **Bidwell House Names New Directors, Summer Plans**

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Maria Carvainis, President of the Bidwell House Board of Directors, announces the appointment of two new directors to supplement the objectives of the Bidwell House Mission Statement and implement the enhanced summer schedule of events and activities.

Brian T. O'Grady has been named Executive Director (nonresident). Formerly Programming Coordinator and Development Administrator at Sterling and Francine Clarke Art Institute in Williamstown. Brian will oversee grant writing, fund-raising, and membership development, as well as conducting Bidwell House tours two days a week.

Heather Oakes has been named Resident Managing Director. She was formerly Adjunct Professor in Women's Studies at Seton Hall, and prior to that Professor of Education at Montclair State University. Heather and her husband Robert will be in residence on June 1, and she will manage, maintain, and classify museum collections, give tours four days a week (the museum is closed Mondays), and establish a data base of visitor membership follow-up.

Special summer events at the Bidwell House include programs on Birds of Prey, a Redware exhibit and lecture, a Native American lecture, and a basket workshop. Dates and times to be announced.

#### **Fund-raisers Planned**

A Spring Fund-raiser Garden Party under the direction of board members Kathryn Roberts and Bob Duffy is planned

# **General Store History Focus** of June 27 Hist. Soc. Meeting

On Friday, June 27, the first meeting of the Monterey Historical Society planned for the summer of 2003 will be devoted to the history of the Monterey General Store. All attending should go directly to the Store at 7 p.m. Bonnie Marks, the manager of the Monterey Store, will greet us and show us around the building. The store has been a vital part of Monterey history, figuring in many decisions and events of our past. The tour of the historic building will include a visit upstairs, seldom seen by the public. The Society possesses several of the early ledgers or account books of the store, which provide fascinating details of the past and will be available for consultation during the evening. Especially noteworthy artifacts are the exterior shutters which can be seen on the front porch. They have been the subject of frequent photographs and paintings for many generations.

Come, bring your friends, and enjoy your town's wealth of history. For further information, contact C. Weber, 528-3698.

at the Bidwell House on Saturday, June 21. A midsummer Great Gatsby Gala will be held on Saturday, August 9, from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. at Rockridge, overlooking Lake Garfield. The evening fund-raisers will cost \$135.00 per person, with dinner and dancing to the Carlin Orchestra. For early reservations call Kathryn Roberts, 528-6188, or Bob Duffy, 528-3007, or the Bidwell House Museum, 528-6888.

- George Emmons

# Jim Bouton to Speak at June 25 Community Dinner

Monterey residents are in for a treat on June 25th, when former New York Yankee pitcher and author Jim Bouton will read from his new book, Foul Ball, at 7:15 p.m. in the Monterey Meetinghouse. Bouton's 1970 best-seller Ball Four, a no-punches-pulled account of his experiences with the Yankees is generally seen as having revolutionized the way sports autobiographies and biographies are written. Foul Ball discusses the political controversy that Bouton and his partners became enmeshed in when they tried to restore Pittsfield's Wahconah Park, built in 1919 and one of the oldest minor league stadiums in the country, and bring in a minor league team to replace the departing Pittsfield Astros. The book, scheduled for publication on June 1, has itself stirred up controversy before its publication because of its revelations about the political infighting in Pittsfield and passages critical of General Electric. Bouton decided to publish the book himself rather than make changes requested by the original publisher. The evening promises to be an interesting one, and Mr. Bouton plans to be on hand after the reading to sign books.

Before the reading the monthly community dinner (a little later than usual this month) will be held in the fellowship hall, beginning at 6 p.m. As usual, bring some food to share and your own silverware and plates. After dinner we will go upstairs for the reading. The food and company are always excellent, so please come: all are invited.

Those who do not wish to come to the dinner are still welcome to come for the reading. This free event is sponsored by the Monterey Library and the community dinner organizers.

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# Earth Day at the Berkshire Fish Hatchery

"When we see land as community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect."—Aldo Leopold

The idea for Earth Day began in 1962, when Senator Gaylord Nelson was troubled at the lack of political concern shown for the environment. He persuaded President Kennedy to go on a five-day, eleven-state conservation tour to bring this issue to the national agenda. The tour did not initially bring political involvement, but it planted the seed that sprouted into the first Earth Day on April 22, 1970.

Earth Day is considered the largest grassroots environmental movement and "one of the most remarkable happenings in the history of democracy" by *American Heritage Magazine*. It has been the impetus for national legislation such as the Clean Air and Clean Water Acts. On its twentieth anniversary, over 200 million people in 141 countries participated in Earth Day celebrations.

Thirty-three years after it began, the Berkshire Fish Hatchery observed Earth Day with a weekend of celebration and education. Since its reopening in September 1999, the Hatchery has worked toward becoming an educational resource for the community. Despite hovering rain

clouds, several hundred people ventured to the Hatchery on April 26 and 27.

In the office building, booths offered information ranging from environmentally friendly cleaning supplies to ecological camping. A wildlife display peered from the walls, allowing visitors a closer look at deer, beaver, bear, and bobcat.

Tanks held examples of baby snapping turtles, frogs, and life from the bottom of Lake Garfield. An aquaponics tank displayed the collaboration between fish and water. This demonstration, using tilapia, showed how lettuce

thrived in trays, nourished from the fish's water. This type of fertilization alleviates the need for salt-based or synthetic fertilization.

On the Hatchery grounds, families made bird feeders, planted trees, and learned how to identify fish. Children dipped nets into the pond to learn about frog eggs, salamanders, water bugs, and other aquatic life. At the lower pond, lines zipped across the air, as fishing and casting was demonstrated. Hatchery tours included the Kelt House, where spawned trout reside. These are the first successfully spawned fish at the Berkshire Hatchery since the closing in 1994.

The weekend concluded with a nature walk around the Kettle: a deep indentation caused by melting glacier ice during the Ice Age. Children scampered up the trails and participated in discussions about our Berkshire habitat. Two llamas also joined the nature hike, charming and nuzzling walkers.

Some of the local participants at the Hatchery Earth Day included the Environmental Police, a Beartown Park Ranger,

Wildlife Services, and Flying Cloud Institute. This community involvement is part of the Hatchery's vision. The Hatchery embraces many environmental, educational, historic, and aesthetic resources. It is hoped that the com-

munity will continue to benefit from the Hatchery's presence for generations to come.

"Dream big dreams, then put on your overalls and go out and make the dreams come true," said Fred Van Amburgh. At the Hatchery, waders are more practical than overalls, but the concept is the same. Due to the fragility of the state budget, ongoing community support is needed to assure the future of the Hatchery.

The Hatchery is currently working on a feed study and planning educational summer programs for camps, schools and Berkshire residents. A fishing derby will be held on June 7 at the Fish Hatchery; all are welcome. Anyone who wishes to learn more about upcoming programs or how to support the Berkshire Fish Hatchery should please call 413-528-9761.

- M. Hamilton

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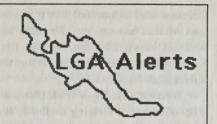
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### Green Corner Bulletin

'Tis the season to be mowing... Summer usually brings us rain, and that means more grass. According to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, a lawn of one-half acre in New England produces over three tons or nearly 260 bags of grass clippings each year.

Bagging and disposing of grass clippings is unnecessary; they can supply up to 50 percent of your lawns nitrogen requirements. Leave them where they fall so they will decompose into a natural, organic (free!) fertilizer. Follow these recommendations for less hassle and less waste.

- Use a mulching mower, or install a mulching blade in your mower.
- Keep your grass moved to 2" -3" tall.
- Keep your mower blade sharp. Dull mowers tear the grass blade, injuring the plant and creating a brownish cast to the turf.
- Use your grass clippings as mulch. Apply dried grass clippings directly on the soil about one inch thick to reduce weeds, maintain soil temperature, and control soil spattering, erosion, runoff, and evaporation.
- Grass clippings are an excellent source of nitrogen for your compost pile. Mix thoroughly with materials such as leaves and turn the pile regularly to keep it well aerated and to prevent odors.



#### Volunteers Needed for LakeFest 2003

Help plan and manage beach activities, boat rides, potluck and more.

Call 528-8439 LakeFest - Aug. 16 (Rain Date Aug. 23)

Don't forget, LGA General Meeting June 21, 9:30 AM, at the Firehouse

www.lakegarfield.org

# Our Lady of the Hills Opens

Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Chapel will open for the summer on Saturday, July 5. Masses will be held at 7 p.m.

For more information about grass recycling or composting or to receive a "Don't Trash Grass" brochure, contact the Center for Ecological Technology (CET) at 1-800-238-1221 or <a href="www.cetonline.org">www.cetonline.org</a>.

- Joy Kirschenbaum, CET



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# Highland Community Initiative June Schedule

#### Foxbard Farm Walk,

June 7, 1–3 p.m., Shelburne. Sponsored by The Trustees of Reservations and the Franklin Land Trust.

Join owner John Payne and Mark Zenick, director of the Franklin Land Trust, on a moderate walk to learn about the history of the farm, how it was protected, and plans for its future.

#### Affordable Housing for Small Towns

June 9, Charlemont Inn, 7 p.m., free and open to all.

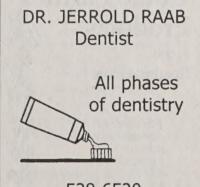
This program will present both zoning and proactive ways in which towns can encourage the provision of housing that is affordable to a variety of income levels. Recent changes to the state affordable housing requirements will also be covered.

#### **Planning and Zoning Basics**

June 16, Village Gallery, Chester, 6–9 p.m. \$15, includes dinner, registration required.

This introductory session will cover the concepts and procedures for special permits, variances, and public hearings, as well as a more in-depth discussion of approvals not required. Though designed for new members, it will be an ideal refresher for more experienced board members and there will be ample time for questions and answers.

For more information or to register, contact Wendy Sweetser at <u>wsweetser-@ttor.org</u> or 413-587-0716 extension 14.



528-6520

Route 23 Monterey

# Revitalizing Local Agriculture

On Monday, June 2, at 8:30 a.m., Monterey farmers Steve and Sally Pullen are presenting a proposal at a public hearing of the Select Board that would allow the Pullens to cultivate one acre of the town-owned Edith Wilson property. This type of cooperative approach which links

farmers needing land with owners of underutilized property has the potential to dramatically increase local agricultural endeavors. As such, the Pullen's proposal is an exciting development.

The Pullen's proposition grew out of a May 15 meeting organized by Sara Hudson and the Tyringham Planning Board for Monterey and Tyringham residents to discuss local farming. The meeting speakers were Jay Healy, former Massachusetts Commissioner of Food and Agriculture, Elizabeth Keen, co-owner of Indian Line Farm in South Egremont, and Amy Cotler, Director of Berkshire Grown.

Healy, a seasoned politician and third-generation farmer in Charlemont, made a dramatic point about why "profitable agriculture" is almost an oxymoron The short answer is "middleman." A longer answer emerged from his handmade graph, illustrating how the gap

between what farmers sell their goods for and what consumers pay for them has widened dramatically in the past fifty years, with the middleman pocketing the substantial difference.

Healy is no stranger to the tenacious grip of ancestral farming tradition; nor has he been immune to business failure. "I've lived the farmer's dilemma. I know



the litany 'don't sell, don't sell, don't sell, '"he says, adding, "I've failed seven times on our farm. I failed with strawberries, with a dairy farm, with free-range chickens, you name it." But today, his Hill Tavern Farm is a successful wood producer, demonstrating Healy's idea that farm success can emerge from a shift in emphasis.

Recognizing that farmers are sometimes loath to change, Healy implemented the Farm Viability program when he was Commissioner of Agriculture. The program enabled farmers to develop a business plan with consultants paid for by the state. Changes encouraged by such plans included introducing value-added products (cheese, ice cream), utilizing waste

products as moneymakers (think "compost"), and, in Healy's own case, turning his trees into highly prized wood for flooring and furniture.

Elizabeth Keen, who, along with husband Alex Thorp, owns Indian Line Farm, spoke quietly but authoritatively on CSAs (Community Supported Agriculture), a national movement begun here in the Berkshires, that is "reinventing" community farming.

CSAs take on different guises depending on local circumstances and leadership, but the basic theme is that consumers form a partnership with the farmer, sharing both the risks and the bounty. Farmers sell "shares" in a season's crops,

with buyers investing at the beginning of the growing season when the farmers' costs are the highest. As the season evolves, members reap the harvest, benefiting when the conditions are favorable, and learning firsthand what the effects are when nature refuses to cooperate.

Indian Line Farm, the first CSA in America, began in 1985. Today there are





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over 1,000 CSAs across the country, with about 250 here in the Northeast. "There are five CSAs here in Berkshire County," notes Elizabeth, "and we have room for more. There's an unstated rule that people won't travel more than five miles to a CSA. We know that when we get new members who live further away there's a 50 percent chance they won't be back the next year."

Besides providing fresh food on a weekly basis, CSAs also "put a face on food." As Elizabeth notes, "We know all of our members, and they know us. They bring their kids to help pick food, we talk about how to cook a vegetable they've never seen before, we get to know one another. When they cook their food, they know who grew it, where it came from, how it was grown. It's simple, personal and direct."

Amy Cotler, the energetic Director of Berkshire Grown, proudly passed out the 2003 Berkshire Grown Farm Map, "hot off the press," she noted. The farm map, widely distributed throughout the county, is one of the tools of the "buy local" campaign mounted by the organization. Cotler also spoke about the First Annual Restaurant Week, June 1–5, when Berkshire Grown members can get a three-course meal featuring local produce at nine Berkshire County restaurants for \$20.03. "Participating restaurants will have membership forms for you to fill out

if you're not already a member," Cotler pointed out.

A major point raised in the discussion was the prohibitively high cost of land, a formidable obstacle to many prospective farmers. And this brings us back to the Pullens' proposal. When Steve asked if there was any land to rent for cultivation, Claudia Weldon, a member of the Monterey Planning Board, thought of the unused Edith Wilson property. She mentioned this to the Pullens, who met her at the house the next day to see the land. By May 19, the Pullens and Claudia met with the Select Board, who enthusiastically endorsed the idea.

"Farming at the Edith Wilson property benefits Monterey in many ways," says Weldon. Others note that farming the land will "breathe some life into an underutilized town asset."

The May 15 meeting at the Tyringham Town Hall was planned as a catalyst for residents to find ways to get involved, to start a conversation about local agriculture, and to share ideas about farm viability in Monterey. Thanks to some quick thinking and prompt action, the meeting may well go beyond talking, and provide Monterey with fresh organic vegetables grown by our neighbors. And if the Pullen-Wilson arrangement succeeds, it will serve as a model for future landowner-farmer accommodations.

- Laurily Epstein

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## **Public Hearing Notice**

The Monterey Select Board will conduct a public hearing on Monday, June 2, 2003, at 8:30 a.m. at the Town Offices to receive proposals for the agricultural use of the Edith Wilson property on New Marlborough Road.

- Monterey Select Board

### How's It Made?

Plans are progressing for the Monterey Cultural Council's art and craft event (it's more than just a show) "How's It Made?", Saturday, August 30, 2003, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Monterey Firehouse Pavilion. We've received numerous applications from outstanding artists and craftspeople for this juried event. In addition to the artists' showing and discussing their work, they will be demonstrating techniques and their artistic process. There will also be music, food, and some artful activities for children. More details to follow.

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## In the Dark of Light

The leaves do scatter,
The chipmunks do scatter:
Yet here I stand alone,
Alone in the dark of light.

The trees do sway,
The birds do chirp;
Yet here I stand alone,
Alone in the dark of light.

The wind is cooling,
The river is not a-rushing;
Yet here I stand alone,
Alone in the dark of light.

The Sun dies out,
The moon shan't show,
So here I stand alone,
Alone in the dark of light.

It's the past,
But still the present,
Forced to stand here alone,
Alone evermore,
In the dark of light.

— Tiffany Catullo-Roberts

# To my cat purring

O pussycat what have you taught me!

the how
of the Tao
of now

for this
with wide-eyed gratitude
for your inscrutable blinking presence
I bow.

- A. O. Howell

### The Bluebird

I heard him in the distance
Then nearer, nearer drew
A little note of gladness,
A little glimpse of blue.
He perched upon a fence post,
This harbinger of spring,
And as I listened to his song
My heart began to sing.

- Eleanor Kimberley

## Odelette to Joy

A hint of joy
Slips into my meditation and I wonder
How it is possible to slide on the slope of life and feel this wondrous thing.

Life sucks! Yes, and joy lies layered in the cloud just above my head. All I need is to lift my chin up a little and I am there.

-Judy Bach

# Forcing Forsythia (an Easter prayer)

late
but never last
in loving you—
was I lost between
the bright burning
heat of my heart
and the raging flames
of abounding greed and
hate?

or just in some desire of beauty reborn of truth resurrected?

desire

held in a tight grip

all the long night

of my dream

like forsythia forced

in an old hanging vase

petitioning that ancient saint

green and grinning

like a child of God

with a chocolate chin

lead us once again

around a may pole

flowered and dancing

skyward gazing

higher—

- R. Zukowski

# A Choreographed Life: 5/7

#### Crescendo the Cabaret!

Diminish the Dirge!

Learn to pirouette
On goblets edge,
Tango out a crystal opera —

Whisk a Waltz
On amorous air,
Anoint a lover's dream —

Trot the Two-step
On empty trenches,
Engrave the dance in earth —

When hopes shatter, Slide into a shimmy —

Prance the Polka
On sorrow's lip —
Stretch into a smile...

-M. Hamilton



# Arizona's Ancient Civilizations

Last month I went to the Sonoran Desert. I had preconceived notions: I thought Tucson would be ringed with golf courses and I would get my eco back up. I thought I would be able to hear the desert gasping, once the sun went down, as irrigation systems and city water demands sucked up the ground water, and that during the day I would be able to

Park MSA

a photo taken in Saguaro National F

smell the salts concentrating as all that sprinkler water evaporated and blew away. As my plane came in to land, I thought, I would see the pox of blue pools, dotting the suburban sprawl around Phoenix. My vacation would be so burdened with species guilt that I would not be able to see the cactus for the drought, the seed savers for the fairways.

You could wonder, with all this enviro-bummer programming, why I didn't just stay home and have my miserable convictions in the comfort of my own time zone. The truth is. I had a shadow of a doubt, a

glimmer in the gloom. Near Tucson there is a Sonoran Desert Museum I'd been hearing about for years, and I hoped I would be able to thread my way through the putting greens and spas to this place.

In fact, it was easy, painless, spectacular. I stayed in a straw-bale house, passive solar with no air conditioner or pool, and the drive to the Desert Museum took me through Saguaro National Park with its rich biological profile of all sorts of desert-adapted plants and animals. No pools, no fairways. I passed the ancient rock art of the Hohokam Indians, whose agricultural civilization thrived for a thousand years and then disappeared before the Spaniards made their first garrison in Tubac, a mission town since 1692. From

Hohokam Petroglyph, probably a desert bighom shap

what I have learned of the Spaniards' treatment of the Indians, I would say the Hohokam were well out of it to have missed this experience. Of course, the Spaniards were by no means the only bullying, grasping people on the scene.

They enslaved the Akima O'odhams (formerly called Pimas), but as slaves they were valued property, with military protection. Once California was discovered to contain more gold than southern Arizona, the Spaniards galloped off to the coast, leaving the Tubac colony at the mercy of its marauding Apache neighbors, who were not merciful.

Human history, ancient or recent, can get you down. I went to the Sonoran Desert Museum to focus on plants and animals, even geology. I made it there

without depressing myself over human environmental degradation and wandered around until I came to the prairie dogs. They lived in a sort of model habitat, with quite a bit of space to run around in but not too much. There were holes they could pop into but they seemed un-self-conscious about staying aboveground, which was nice for us zoo-goers. The museum (zoo) staff take care of these animals and keep them safe from predators and disease. We pay our admission and get to ogle them. In the case of the prairie dogs, this would be hard to do in the wild since

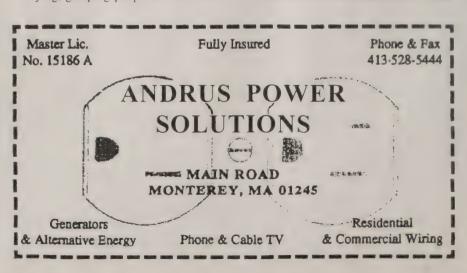
their former civilizations have been altered by thousands of pounds of strychnine, administered by cattle raisers.

In Mammals of North America (Macmillan, 1961), Victor Cahalane writes that there was a time when "cities

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of underground dwellings stretched for hundreds of miles across the short-grass plains. The homes had guard rooms, bed chambers and toilets. Little circular dikes protected the doorways so that flood waters would not run down the hallways.... Probably more than four hundred millions lived in a city that was one thousand miles wide and two hundred and fifty miles long." Prairie dogs are famous for their social "towns" and the character of these was apparent even in the zoo setting of the Desert Museum. For one thing, they communicate with each other almost constantly, with yips and chattering, with body language, and with physical contact. I watched various groups of prairie dogs tumbling and wrestling, standing up on hind legs, grooming. Many characteristic behaviors were explained on a large sign and I read the whole thing through with much interest. I took some crummy photographs and wrote some notes. After awhile a family of people came along. The children were especially charmed by the prairie dogs: "Look! Oh, they are so cute. They are kissing each other-oooh. I want one." Pretty soon the adult humans were reading the large sign aloud, making the most of what we call a "teachable moment," hoping their kids would get beyond the "ooooh" to something more intellectual. or at least scientific.

I listened to all the stuff about eating habits and underground architecture. We got to the kissing and grooming. The adult female human read unsuspectingly onward, though she might have been warned by the fact that the last part of the sign was in a special box with bright yellow background. "These behaviors take place UNDERGROUND. Copulation: The male of a coterie breeds with all his adult females, guarding them from outside males. This is a stressful, combative time of year ..." Here the reader broke off, skimmed ahead a little. "Infanticide," she began, bravely. Then "Oh, dear ..."

"Only recently has it been discovered that most prairie dog babies are killed in the nest. They are the victims of other mothers in the coterie, who slip down unguarded burrows to kill and eat them." Our human mother faltered, but I took a photo of the sign. It goes on, "Why? Researchers suggest two possibilities. The killer's babies may experience less competition for food when they emerge aboveground. And the mother, for whom milk production is very stressful, may benefit from the extra protein."

No one said teachable moments are easy, sorry to say. The Spaniards, Apaches, strychnine, infanticide, desert golf courses (I did see a few) must have something to tell us, beyond "ooooh," but "ooooh" is definitely a good start. I

# Watercolor Class in Sandisfield

The Sandisfield Art Center Youth and Family Program is sponsoring a watercolor art class with Susie Crofut on Sunday, June 8, at 2:00 p.m. Call Sue Salame at 258-4953 to sign up. The place is to be announced, so leave your phone number on answering machine when you call. Spaces left are limited. Materials are supplied free but donations are accepted.

This program is offered free to all through the generosity of the Monterey Cultural Council and the Sandisfield Cultural Council, local agencies supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

saw it as a door opening to another world, another perspective (thank you, researchers). We humans need to get these doors open because we have such potential for better understanding. For me, who knows? I may even come to appreciate some aspect of golf.

- Bonner J. McAllester

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## **Snorkeling with Stitches**

My young neighbor, Cora, caught my attention as she was standing in front of an old barn, completely focused on weaving a friendship bracelet from embroidery floss. A few weeks later, I met Molly and Caitlin. All three girls were being homeschooled and wanted to know more about fibers and fabrics. I wished to share my love of needle-based handwork, so I chose a project that combined needlework with tropical fish, and called it "Snorkeling with Stitches."

The youngsters, their parents, and I agreed that the girls and I would meet for two-hour sessions once a week for six weeks at a local church. By advertising in a shoppers' guide to reach other homeschoolers and through word of mouth, Tarsi, Emily, and Ember joined the original three.

My goal was for each girl to create a simple, self-designed undersea image, then translate it into felt appliqué with embroidery embellishments. The finished product would be a pillow or small wall hanging.

I cut tropical sea-life photos from *National Geographic* and made how-to posters of various embroidery stitches. The girls, aged nine to fourteen, loved the water and, although we live inland, "coral reef" was already part of everyone's work-



ing vocabulary. We talked about swimming, tropical fish, aquariums, reefs, tides, islands, and oceans. We considered seaweed, snorkeling, treasure chests, starfish, and jellyfish. Each girl then made a simple pencil drawing of her underwater fantasy.

After they talked about their drawings, the girls chose colors they liked from a large array of felt and embroidery floss. It was easy to turn the conversation to compliment and critique each other's choices and trade fabric and floss. Then it was time to thread their needles and learn a few stitches.

They giggled at the idea of a "doodle cloth" as a tool for learning and mastering



stitches. This reassured the girls that mistakes are part of the learning process. Having each girl then choose her own bright doodle cloth and high contrast "doodle floss" eased any impatience to start working on their "real materials" before they were ready.

They were thrilled to learn simple embroiderers' tips. On hearing that thread has a grain, they quickly learned to use their fingertips to find "the smooth side" to minimize later tangles. Frustration with needle threading was almost eliminated with two simple steps. First, each girl used a needle with an eye large enough to accommodate two strands of embroidery floss. Second, they practiced bringing the needle's eye to the thread.

Almost at once, the girls demonstrated a good skill with the chain stitch. When I mentioned that whole cultures created needlework treasures using only this stitch, their confidence levels soared. The next question was, "What other stitches can we learn?"

They decided the feather stitch "perfect for seaweed," and all agreed that both running stitches and blanket stitches would hold appliqué pieces in place. Stem and outline stitches posed no problem except remembering which was which. At the end of each session, they took their doodle cloths and floss home so they could practice stitches during the week.

At the second session, we reviewed stitches and brought out the drawings and plans for review. They made paper patterns from their drawings and began



working on the appliqué part of their project. As they explored their materials over the next weeks, they changed their original patterns to suit their growing skills. Seed stitches and French knots came into play. They appliquéd felt onto felt and then embroidered over the appliqué.

The girls, their families, and I were all thrilled with their finished work: five pillows and a wall hanging. Each girl finished her own piece. The pillows were stitched chain or running stitch about an inch in from each of three sides. After stuffing the pillows, they stitched the fourth side to close their pieces. The wall hanging had three felt tabs stitched to the back, and a dowel was then passed through the tabs.

While the names and numbers shifted from time to time and project to project, my homeschool stitching group remained active for close to two years, and we all had fun.

- Mary Kate Jordan





# Notes from Greenhaven Farm The Waiting Game

Gardening requires patience, though heaven knows most gardeners suffer from lack of it. This is the season for planting. I plant seeds in little cubes of soil. I plant seeds in small green pots. And I plant seeds in the ground. Then I wait.

I check them every day. Are they up yet? Thank goodness for the ones that

take only three or four days to germinate. Lettuce, cabbage and broccoli, zinnias and marigolds all sprout in a week or less—also peas planted outdoors if the weather conditions are good, moist and not too cold. Rain and then sun, rain and sun. Isn't that what they all want? Would that the gardener could provide it like clockwork, but that power has not been given us.

Then there are those seeds that take forever to germinate. Some of the flowers and herbs take the longest. I nearly threw out the flats of barren soil where I'd planted snapdragons, love-in-a-mist, summer savory, parsley, sweet William, and baby's breath. Poised over the compost bucket, ready to dump, I noticed one or two tiny green somethings, so tiny I could hardly see them. Wait! Back

they went on the shelf in our makeshift greenhouse, and over the next several days, miraculously several more tiny plants emerged. Whew! That was close.

The same is true for some vegetables planted outdoors, "direct seeded" in gardening parlance. Carrots and parsnips are notorious for their reluctance to come up. One year, back in Vermont, I planted carrots in my garden plot. It was hot and dry that summer, and I was ignorant about the need to keep seeds moist while waiting for germination. The seed packet for

carrots says they may take three weeks to come up. I waited and waited. A month or more went by; then nearly two. Finally I gave up and planted a fall crop of peas where the carrots had failed. I raked the soil and turned under some compost to improve the chances of my peas. I made furrows and planted the seeds.

Then, you guessed it, a week or so after the peas began to show, wonder of wonders there were the carrots, all higgledy-piggledy and here and there, but up and growing. I had a great crop of carrots thriving amidst my peas in spite of all the neglect and trauma I had visited upon them.

The force of nature is a mighty one, so let's plant those seeds and pray for rain.

- Sally Pullen

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Greylock, Wozolii, Alaska. Shilo, and Kaangi (in shadows)

## **Two White Wolves**

Two white wolves, named Wozolii and Alaska, are remarkable specimens of a splendid wolf pack of six lobos that needs to find a new home because their owners, Mr. and Mrs. David Parrott of Otis, have both been admitted to Fairview Commons Nursing Home. In their absence, State Environmental Police Officer Melissa Hamm has spearheaded an effort to care for them and relocate the pack. Even though they are hybrid wolves, linked by canine lineage to sled dogs, either a special wildlife permit or a Native American legal status is required to take them into possession.

David Parrott is better known in the back country of Monterey and Otis as "Bear Paws," an Indian name, because as a baby his hands appeared to be as big as the paws of a bear cub. Around his home his Indian name might be observed as "Dances With Wolves." He daily performed a ritual of step and fetch it to bring them roadkill and pure drinking water from a local spring. The alpha male of the pack is called Greylock as in the name of

a mountain to the north which also is showing its age by the stands of gray birch that streak the tree line at the top. Older wolves are not so easily transferred to new owners because like people they are set in their ways.

David himself is also hoping to get back into circulation. He has earned the title of Algonquin Medicine Man through healing powers and helpful ways to those in need, especially among the Abenaki tribe, who are his wife's people. Her name is "Spirit" and she is the legal owner of the pack. David is also an archeologist having been associated with Dr. Funk, head of New York State archeology. David and I became friends through our common interest in burial mounds and cairns, and our paths crossed again through his position at the Kolburne School in New Marlborough. As a mentor of troubled boys there, he helped organize field trips to the Berkshire Fish Hatchery, and their volunteer

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Box 773 Monterey, MA work program helps greatly in maintenance of the property and is educational for the boys. It was at the hatchery on Earth Day, April 27, when Melissa Hamm enlisted my help to relocate his pack.

She suggested I call Foxwoods Indian Casino in Ledyard, Connecticut, which has the largest Native American museum in the country; the museum, according to David McAllester, a Founding Member and also a friend of "Bear Paws," is state of the art. I made the call. remembering that the name came from the fact that a local Pequot clan was called "The People of the Fox." The Program Director was very sympathetic to the situation, especially when he learned two of the wolves were white. Through his networking efforts since that call, my phone rings regularly with prospective owners as far away as Vermont and New Mexico. When I informed one caller the pack had been interbred with Canada timber wolves, she informed me that this may have resulted in their acquiring genes of arctic wolves, which like polar bears blend into surroundings for predatory survival.

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The two wolves sacred to Eastern Algonquins because they are white have a biological homologue far to the west among the Dakotah Plains Indians in the white buffalo, a singular animal that on record appears only once every hundred years. This phenomenon is not to be confused with albinism, common in deer and mice, which is an entirely separate condition of pigment deficiency. The last white buffalo was born about ten years ago on a game farm in Wisconsin not far from the North Star Casino built by the Mahicans who had migrated there from Stockbridge because they were not having much luck around here. In the mythology of a downtrodden culture, the white buffalo is considered an omen of good fortune which will herald a return to Native American ways and respect for the environment.

If the white buffalo does not change the luck of Native Americans, the legal loophole that grants gaming permits has permanently spun the wheel of fortune for them. And in Monterey at the annual town meeting, two legal issues of environmental concern were presented and passed, the Scenic Mountain Act and the banning of jet skis from Lake Garfield. The drum still beats slowly in different ways to recognize the sacredness of every living thing, and let's hope that the spirit of two white wolves helps find them a new home, and peace of mind for their owners.

— George Emmons

# **Highland Communities Initiative Photo Contest**

The Highland Communities Initiative is sponsoring a photography contest of images that highlight the special quality of the region. Photos should express the essence of the Highlands, whether it is the scenic, historical, ecological, or recreational features of the region, or the pleasures of living in one of these thirty-eight towns. Photos must be submitted by September 1, 2003, and must be taken in one of the Highlands towns. Cash prizes will be awarded. Details and contest rules can be obtained on <a href="https://www.highlandcommunities.org">www.highlandcommunities.org</a> or by calling 413-587-0716.

The Highlands Communities Initiative is a program of the Trustees of Reservations dedicated to promoting land conservation and community preservation in the Highlands, the thirty-eight rural Massachusetts towns between the Connecticut River and Housatonic River Valleys. The towns of the Highlands are: Ashfield, Becket, Blandford, Buckland, Charlemont, Chester, Chesterfield, Colrain, Conway, Cummington, Florida, Goshen, Granville, Hawley, Heath, Hinsdale, Huntington, Leyden, Middlefield, Monterey, Montgomery, Monroe, New Marlborough, Otis, Peru, Plainfield, Rowe, Russell, Savoy, Sandisfield, Shelburne, Tolland, Tyringham, Washington, Westhampton, Williamsburg, Windsor, and Worthington.

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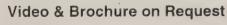
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We are grateful to the following readers for recent contributions to the Monterey News in response to our annual fund-raising appeal. You make it possible for us to continue publishing your community newspaper.

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# Tarsi Dunlop Selected to Attend National Student Leadership Conference

Tarsi Dunlop, class of 2005 at Berkshire Country Day School, has been selected to participate this summer in the National Student Leadership Conference (NSLC) on International Diplomacy, an extraordinary leadership development

program for outstanding high school students. While attending the NSLC, Tarsi will have the opportunity to study, experience, and develop the skills and traits that define and

identify a leader. This summer, approximately 1500 gifted high school students from across the United States and from 45 countries around the world will find themselves immersed in a learning environment unlike any they have ever experienced. These young leaders return to their schools with increased potential and newly developed abilities that enable them to make a positive difference in their communities.

During the conference, students attend special workshops and classes where they study the "distinctions of leadership." Special guest speakers (who in previous years have included U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige, former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, former Attorney General Janet Reno, President of the World Bank James Wolfensohn, and Supreme Court Justices Anthony Kennedy, Sandra Day O'Connor, and David Souter, as well as

world-renowned surgeons, international medical researchers, ambassadors, Pentagon and White House officials) add a sense of reality and bring current national and international issues to life.

Through participation in this extraordinary 11-day program, students develop their abilities to think on their feet, to engage in critical analysis, and to communicate effectively—skills that will serve them well as leaders in high school,

college, and throughout their lives. The NSLC mission is to identify and recognize outstanding young leaders from around the world, and to provide them with a unique learn-

ing environment that encourages not only academic achievement, but also diversity, cooperation, and social responsibility. "Students develop a sense of independence and responsibility," said Dr. Paul M. Lisnek, the NSLC Director of Academics and former Assistant Dean of Loyola University Chicago School of Law. "They leave with a true feeling of accomplishment and confidence in their ability to handle the challenges that lie ahead."

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## Remembering Neil Orenstein

Neil Shepard Orenstein, 60, of Beartown Mountain Road died Monday, May 5, at his home.

Born April 5, 1943, in New York City, he was the son of Shirley Berkowitz Orenstein and the late Benjamin Orenstein. He graduated from Valley Stream South High School and received his bachelor's degree from Clark University. He later earned his master's from Queens College and then his Ph.D. from Rutgers Institute of Microbiology.

He moved from Boston to Monterey in 1985. Neil maintained a private practice in Lenox where he worked as a nutritional biochemist. He was a well-known speaker and Jectured extensively in his field.

He was a member of the Stockbridge Sportsman Club, the Berkshire Fishing Club and was an instrumental founding member of the Sportsmen for Land Preservation.

Besides his mother, Neil is survived by his wife, Sarah Lindsey Bingham of Great Barrington, his daughter, Elizabeth Bingham Orenstein, and stepson, William Bingham Conklin. He also leaves his brother, Edward Orenstein, and his wife, Rosanna Sattler of Cambridge.



# Remembering Donald Amstead Sr.

Donald L. "Bud" Amstead Sr., 89, of Water Farm Road, Sheffield, former longtime resident of Monterey, died May 22 at Fairview Hospital following a vehicle accident in Ashley Falls.

Born at his grandparents' home in Canaan, Conn., June 4, 1913, son of Archie and Elva Roos Amstead, he attended Mill River and New Marlborough schools and was a graduate of the former New Marlborough High School. After moving from Monterey, he lived in Sheffield at the home of Ruth Decker.

He served in the Massachusetts State Guard during World War II. He retired in the early 1990s from the former New England Log Homes in Great Barrington. Prior to this he was a sawmill operator for over ten years and a carpenter for Roy Wilkinson Co. of Sheffield.

He attended the Monterey United Church of Christ and was a member of the National Rifle Association.

His wife, Edna Soldati Amstead, predeceased him. He leaves two sons, Donald L. Amstead Jr. of Monterey and Bruce Amstead of Pittsfield; one daughter, Barbara Thorpe of Great Barrington; nine grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and his companion, Ruth Decker of Sheffield.

## P.O. Box 9, 01245

#### Thanks to Voters

To the Editor:

Thank you to all the voters of Monterey for turning out to vote. I'm happy to have the opportunity to work for the Town. My only regret is that I will no longer be writing for the *Monterey News*. Please visit us at the Town Offices and stay in touch.

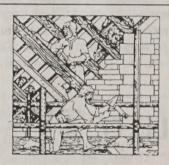
- Michele Miller



# Town Reporter Needed

The town has gained a new member of the Select Board, but the *Monterey News* lost a reporter for the town news. If you are interested in being the reporter, please phone editor Will Marsh at 528-4347 or e-mail <a href="mailto:wilmarsh@localnet.com">wilmarsh@localnet.com</a>. The town reporter is a paid position.

And thank you, Michele, for your dedication and excellent reporting.



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### Calendar

Every Monday (except holidays): Select Board meeting, 8:30 a.m.-12 noon, Town Offices.

Monday, June 2: Public Hearing, 8:30 a.m., Town Offices, on agricultural use of Edith Wilson property.

#### Saturday, June 7:

Fishing derby at the Berkshire Fish Hatchery, River/Hatchery Road. Call 413-528-9761 for information.

Tolland Black Fly Day, a day of fun, games for children, flea markets, silent auctions, a road race, a grand parade, a disk jockey, and more entertainment.

Sunday, June 8: Watercolor class in Sandisfield, 2 p.m. Call 413-258-4953 to sign up. See p. 15.

Thursday, June 12: Free blood pressure clinic, 2:30-3:30 p.m., Town Hall, administered by Visiting Nurses Assoc.

#### Saturday, June 14:

Flag Day

Full Moon

Sunday, June 15: Father's Day

Saturday, June 21:

Summer Solstice

Spring Fund-raiser Garden Party at the Bidwell House. See p. 7.

Wednesday, June 25: Community Dinner, 6 p.m., Meetinghouse Fellow-

### A Personal Note

Congratulations to **Kitty and Art Hastedt**, who will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on July 2.

ship Hall, followed at 7:15 by reading upstairs by Jim Bouton from his new book. See p. 7.

Friday, June 27: Monterey Historical Society meeting, 7 p.m., Monterey General Store. Subject is history of General Store. All welcome. See p. 7.

Saturday, June 28: Square and contra dancing, 8:30–11:30 p.m., Sheffield Grange, Rt. 7, Sheffield. Music by Mountain Laurel, calling by Jeff Walker. All dances are taught, beginners and children are welcome. Refreshments at intermission. Adults \$6, children \$3. Information 528-9385.

Saturday, July 5: Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Chapel opens for the summer. Masses will be held at 7 p.m.

### **Transfer Station Hours**

Sunday ....... 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesday .... 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday ...... 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

# DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION WATERWAYS REGULATION PROGRAM

Notice of Amnesty Interim Approval Application pursuant to G.L. Chapter 91Amnesty Interim Approval Application Nos.W96-5520,5522,5523,5524,5525,5526.

Public notice is hereby given of the applications by Owen Bernstein, Hugo DeMartino, Louise Kaestle. Norma Kerlinsky, and John and Sue Schmerler to maintain existing docks in Monterey in Lake Garfield. No new activity is proposed to be authorized under this application,

The Department will consider all written comments on this application received within 30 days of the publication of this notice. Failure of any aggrieved person or group of ten or more citizens to submit written comments to the Waterways Regulation Program within 30 days of the publication of this notice will result in the waiver of any right to an adjudicatory hearing in accordance with 310 CMR 9.13(4)(c).

For more information on this application call (617) 556-1134. Written comments must be addressed to: Ben Lynch, Program Chief, DEP Waterways Regulation Program, One Winter Street-6th Floor, Boston, MA 02108.

# The Observer April 26-May 25

High temp. (5/20) 79°
Low temp. (5/18)31°
Avg. high temp63.5°
Avg. low temp 42.3°
Avg. temp 52.9°
Total precipitation
(rain and melted snow)2.84"
Precipitation occurred on 15 days



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Wednesday	3-5	p.m.
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Our editorial address is *Monterey News*, P. O. Box 9, Monterey, MA, 01245. We invite signed letters, articles, drawings, poetry, and photographs from readers. Please send submissions (e-mail or computer disk if possible) by the 20th of the month before publication, addressed to the Editor. Send any change of address, or initial request to receive the *News* by

mail (free) to Barbara Tryon, Business Manager. We will typeset a text-only ad for your Monterey-based business, service, or event, or advertisers may submit a computer formatted ad with graphics. Addres's request for advertising rates and further information to the Editor, or telephone us at 413-528-4347 or e-mail wilmarsh@localnet.com.

MONTEREY NEWS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
MONTEREY, MA 01245

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Contributions from local artists this month: Maureen Banner, pp. 10, 13; Bonner McAllester, p. 14; Glynis Oliver, pp. 8, 17, 21, 22, 23.

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